Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.   (previously presented)   A telecommunications system for communicating a Short Message Service (SMS) message to a user equipment using a subscriber identity number terminating on an Internet Protocol network using an Internet Protocol (IP), the user equipment acting as an Internet Protocol (IP) client, the system comprising a short message service centre (SM-SC), a gateway mobile switching centre (GMSC) of an SMS network for communicating SMS messages, an Internet Protocol/SMS (IP/SMS) gateway for communicating between the SMS network and the IP network and a home location database (HLR/HSS) for maintaining address data identifying a current location of a user equipment, the gateway mobile switching centre being operable

in response to the SMS message received from the short message service centre to interrogate the home location database for an address to which the SMS message should be sent, the home location database being operable to provide the gateway mobile switching centre with an address of the IP/SMS gateway stored in association with the subscriber identity number, the gateway switching centre being operable

to send the SMS message to the IP/SMS gateway, the IP/SMS gateway being operable to retrieve an Internet Protocol address corresponding to the subscriber identity number stored in an IP/SMS database associated with the IP/SMS gateway, and

to communicate the SMS message to the user equipment at the retrieved IP address via the IP network, wherein the IP network includes an authentication server which is operable to determine the IP/SMS gateway address from the IP network via which the user equipment is communicating, and to communicate the IP/SMS gateway address to the home location database, the IP/SMS gateway address being stored in the home location database in association with the subscriber identity number for retrieval by the gateway mobile switching centre in response to the received SMS message.

2.   (currently amended)   [[A]] The system as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the authentication server is operable to determine the IP address of the user equipment when communicating via the IP network, and to communicate the IP address of the user equipment to the IP/SMS gateway for

storing in the IP/SMS database associated with the IP/SMS gateway for retrieval by the IP/SMS gateway in response to the received SMS message.

3.   (currently amended)   [[A]] The system as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the home location database is arranged to set for at least the subscriber identity number of the user equipment, a flag indicative of whether the user equipment is currently communicating via the IP network, the address of the IP/SMS gateway to which SMS messages should be sent being stored in association with the flag.

4.   (currently amended)   [[A]] The system as claimed in Claim [[3]] 1, wherein the authentication server is operable to set the flag in the home location database to indicate that the user equipment is currently communicating via the IP terminated network, and if not set to indicate that the SMS message should be communicated via a serving support node of a cellular mobile radio network for delivery to the user equipment.

5.   (currently amended)   A home location database stored on a ~~computer readable medium~~ server, the home location database for maintaining address data identifying a current location of a user equipment, the address data providing an address to which an SMS message addressed to the user equipment at a subscriber identity number should be sent, wherein the home location database is arranged to provide a gateway mobile switching centre with an address of an IP/SMS gateway for communicating the SMS message to the user equipment at the subscriber identity number, when the user equipment is communicating via an Internet Protocol (IP) network using an Internet Protocol, communication being terminated on the IP network and the user equipment acting as an Internet Protocol (IP) client, the address of the IP/SMS gateway being provided by an authentication server, which determines the IP/SMS gateway from the IP network via which the user equipment is communicating the home location database being arranged to store for at least the subscriber identity number of the user equipment, a flag indicative of whether the user equipment is currently communicating via the IP network and acting as an Internet Protocol (IP) client, and if the flag is set to indicate that the user equipment is currently communicating via the IP network, an address of the IP/SMS gateway to which SMS messages should be sent.

6.   (previously presented)   A method of communicating a Short Message Service (SMS) message to a user equipment using a subscriber identity number terminating on an

Internet Protocol (IP) network using an Internet Protocol (IP), the user equipment acting as an Internet Protocol (IP) client, the method comprising

maintaining address data identifying a current location of the user equipment in a home location database,

receiving the SMS message at a gateway mobile switching centre (GMSC) of an SMS network for communicating the SMS message,

providing, to the gateway mobile switching centre, from the home location database an address of an Internet Protocol/SMS gateway for communicating between the SMS network and the IP network,

sending the SMS message to the IP/SMS gateway,

retrieving the IP address corresponding to the subscriber identity number from an IP/SMS database associated with the IP/SMS gateway, and

communicating the SMS message to the user equipment at the retrieved IP address via the IP network, wherein the maintaining the address data comprises

determining the IP/SMS gateway address from the IP network via which the user equipment is communicating using an authentication server connected to the IP network,

communicating the IP/SMS gateway address from the authentication server to the home location database, and

storing the IP/SMS gateway address in the home location database in association with the subscriber identity number for retrieval in response to the received SMS message.

7.   (currently amended)   [[A]] The method as claimed in Claim 6, the method comprising

determining the IP address of the user equipment when communicating via the IP network,

communicating the IP address of the user equipment to the IP/SMS gateway, and

storing the IP address of the user equipment in an IP/SMS database associated with the IP/SMS gateway, the IP address being stored in association with the subscriber identity number for retrieval in response to the received SMS message.

8.   (currently amended)   [[A]] The method as claimed in Claim 6, comprising
        setting a flag in the home location database
        for at least the subscriber identity number of the user equipment, the flag being indicative
of whether the user equipment is currently communicating via the IP network, the address of the
IP/SMS gateway to which SMS messages should be sent being stored in association with the
flag.

9.   (currently amended)   [[A]] The method as claimed in Claim [[8]] 6, comprising
        setting the flag in the home location database to indicate that the user equipment is
currently communicating via the IP terminated network, and
        not setting the flag to indicate that the SMS message should be communicated via a
serving support node of a cellular mobile radio network for delivery to the user equipment.

10.   (previously presented)   A telecommunications system for communicating a Short
Message Service (SMS) message to a user equipment using a subscriber identity number
terminating on an Internet Protocol (IP) network using an Internet Protocol (IP), the user
equipment acting as an Internet Protocol (IP) client, the system comprising
        means for maintaining address data identifying a current location of the user equipment in
a home location database,
        means for receiving the SMS message at a gateway mobile switching centre (GMSC) of
an SMS network for communicating the SMS message,
        means for providing, to the gateway mobile switching centre, from the home location
database an address of an Internet Protocol/SMS gateway for communicating between the SMS
network and the IP network,
        means for sending the SMS message to the IP/SMS gateway,
        means for retrieving the IP address corresponding to the subscriber identity number from
an IP/SMS database associated with the IP/SMS gateway, and
        means for communicating the SMS message to the user equipment at the retrieved IP
address via the IP network, wherein the means for maintaining the address data comprises
        means for determining from an authentication server forming part of the IP network the
IP/SMS gateway address via which the user equipment is communicating,
        means for communicating the IP/SMS gateway address from the authentication server to
the home location database, and

means for storing the IP/SMS gateway address in the home location database in association with the subscriber identity number for retrieval in response to the received SMS message.

11.   (currently amended)   [[A]] The telecommunications system as claimed in Claim 10, comprising
        means for determining an Internet Protocol (IP) address of the user equipment when communicating via the IP network,
        means for communicating the IP address of the user equipment to an IP/SMS gateway, and
        means for storing the IP address of the user equipment in the IP/SMS database associated with the IP/SMS gateway, the IP address being stored in association with the subscriber identity number, for retrieval in response to the SMS message.

12.   (currently amended)   [[A]] The telecommunications system as claimed in Claim 10, comprising means for setting a flag in the home location database for at least the subscriber identity number of the user equipment, a flag indicative of whether the user equipment is currently communicating via the IP network, the address of the IP/SMS gateway to which SMS messages should be sent being stored in association with the flag.

13.   (canceled).

14.   (canceled).

15.   (currently amended)   [[A]] The system as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the home location database is arranged to set for at least the subscriber identity number of the user equipment, a flag indicative of whether the user equipment is currently communicating via the IP network, the address of the IP/SMS gateway to which SMS messages should be sent being stored in association with the flag.

16. (currently amended) [[A]] The method as claimed in Claim 7, comprising

setting a flag in the home location database

for at least the subscriber identity number of the user equipment, the flag being indicative of whether the user equipment is currently communicating via the IP network, the address of the IP/SMS gateway to which SMS messages should be sent being stored in association with the flag.

17. (currently amended) [[A]] The telecommunications system as claimed in Claim 11, comprising means for setting a flag in the home location database for at least the subscriber identity number of the user equipment, a flag indicative of whether the user equipment is currently communicating via the IP network, the address of the IP/SMS gateway to which SMS messages should be sent being stored in association with the flag.

18. (new) A network of devices for communicating a Short Message Service (SMS) message to a mobile device using a subscriber identity number terminating on an Internet Protocol network using an Internet Protocol (IP), the mobile device acting as an Internet Protocol (IP) client, the network of devices comprising a short message service centre (SM-SC), a gateway mobile switching centre (GMSC) of an SMS network for communicating SMS messages, an Internet Protocol/SMS (IP/SMS) gateway for communicating between the SMS network, the mobile device and the IP network and a home location database (HLR/HSS) for maintaining address data identifying a current location of the mobile device, the gateway mobile switching centre being operable

in response to the SMS message received from the short message service centre to interrogate the home location database for an address to which the SMS message should be sent, the home location database being operable to provide the gateway mobile switching centre with an address of the IP/SMS gateway stored in association with the subscriber identity number, the gateway switching centre being operable

to send the SMS message to the IP/SMS gateway, the IP/SMS gateway being operable to retrieve an Internet Protocol address corresponding to the subscriber identity number stored in an IP/SMS database associated with the IP/SMS gateway, and

to communicate the SMS message to the mobile device at the retrieved IP address via the IP network, wherein the IP network includes an authentication server which is operable to determine the IP/SMS gateway address from the IP network via which the mobile device is

communicating, and to communicate the IP/SMS gateway address to the home location database, the IP/SMS gateway address being stored in the home location database in association with the subscriber identity number for retrieval by the gateway mobile switching centre in response to the received SMS message,

wherein the home location database sets for at least the subscriber identity number of the mobile device, a flag indicative of whether the mobile device is currently communicating via the IP network, the address of the IP/SMS gateway to which SMS messages should be sent being stored in association with the flag.